



WEST PARCEL HABITAT RESTORATION



EPTDESIGN

HELIX
Environmental Planning





LEGEND

-  Restoration Area
-  Fence Boundary

PROJECT SUMMARY

Mt. San Antonio College (Mt. SAC) will preserve and expand existing coastal sage scrub habitat located within an open space area known as West Parcel. The restoration plan for West Parcel was reviewed and approved by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Restoration activities will include removing non-native species, such as **Short-pod Mustard** (*Hirschfeldia incana*), that can outcompete native species. Following non-native species removal, native coastal sage scrub species will be planted. Reclaimed water will be used to temporarily irrigate the new native planting in order to relieve the stress on our freshwater supplies. Some of the species that will be planted include **Black Sage** (*Salvia mellifera*), **California Buckwheat** (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*), **California Sagebrush** (*Artemisia californica*), **Golden Yarrow** (*Eriophyllum confertiflorum*), and **Toyon** (*Heteromeles arbutifolia*).

Once planting is complete, biologists will monitor the restoration site for a five-year period to track establishment of the plants and wildlife use of the area. During this five-year period, the site will be regularly maintained to control establishment of non-native species and to remove trash from the restoration site. Once the five-year maintenance and monitoring program is complete, Mt. SAC will continue to monitor and maintain the site in perpetuity to ensure long-term success of the restored habitat.



California Sagebrush
Artemisia californica



Coastal California Gnatcatcher
Polioptila californica californica



Black Sage
Salvia mellifera

BENEFITS TO NATURE

Coastal sage scrub provides habitat for a diversity of wildlife species, including some endemic species unique to California. Over the decades, the coastal sage scrub habitat has been lost to development and it is estimated only 10 to 15 percent of its original extent remains undeveloped. The restoration and preservation of coastal sage scrub habitat at West Parcel will provide habitat for a host of native plant and animal species, including the federally threatened and state species of special concern, **Coastal California Gnatcatcher** (*Polioptila californica californica*).

The **Coastal California Gnatcatcher** is a small songbird that nests and forages in coastal sage scrub. The restored coastal sage scrub will have higher native plant species cover and a corresponding higher density and diversity of native wildlife, and will provide foraging and nesting habitat for the Gnatcatcher. The restored and existing coastal sage scrub at the West Parcel will provide potential learning opportunities for Mt. SAC students and will increase visual aesthetics for community residents and commuters traveling on Grand Avenue.



Toyon
Heteromeles arbutifolia



California Buckwheat
Eriogonum fasciculatum



Golden Yarrow
Eriophyllum confertiflorum

KEY TERMS

COASTAL SAGE SCRUB: Also known as soft chaparral, it is a low scrubland plant community of the California coastal sage and chaparral subecoregion.

ENDEMIC SPECIES: Any species whose range is restricted to a limited geographical area.

ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION: The process of addressing impacts to the environment caused by human action.

HABITAT: The natural home or environment of an animal, plant, or other organism.

INVASIVE SPECIES: A species of plant or animal that outcompetes other species causing damage to an ecosystem.

NATIVE SPECIES: A species that originated and developed in its surrounding habitat and has adapted to living in that particular environment.

RECLAIMED WATER: Water reclamation is the process of converting municipal or industrial wastewater into water that can be reused for a variety of purposes.

RESTORATION: The process of assisting the recovery of an ecosystem that has been degraded, damaged, or destroyed.



For Project Information

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